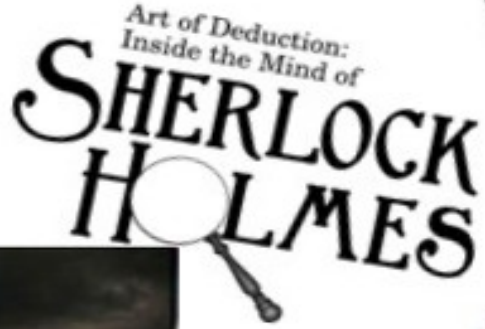
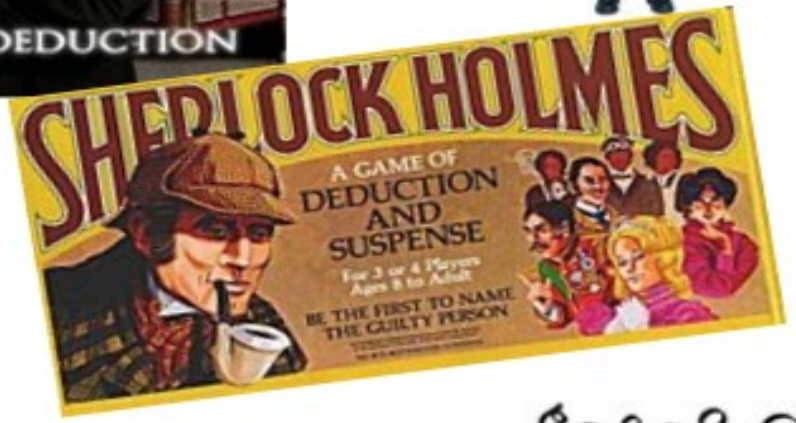
MODALS OF DEDUCTION





DEDUCTION

How sure are we?

100%	USE MUST
50%	USE COULD, MIGHT OR MAY
0%	USE CAN'T

NOTE: DON'T USE COULDN'T FOR PRESENT DEDUCTION

In the present use **modal verb + bare infinitive**

The house is completely dark. Everybody **must be** out. (We're sure)
Helen **could be** at home by now. She finished work early today. (It's possible)
He **might not go** to school today because he's got a bad cold. (It's possible)
She **can't come** from Sweden. She doesn't speak Swedish. (It's impossible)

In the past use **modal verb + HAVE + past participle**

He called earlier but nobody answered They **must have been** busy. (We're sure)
Where's my chocolate? My brother **might have eaten** it. (It's possible)
Ben didn't revise last night. He **might not have had** enough time. (It's possible)
I remember locking the door so I **can't have left** the keys at home.
(It's impossible)

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LEARNING ENGLISH

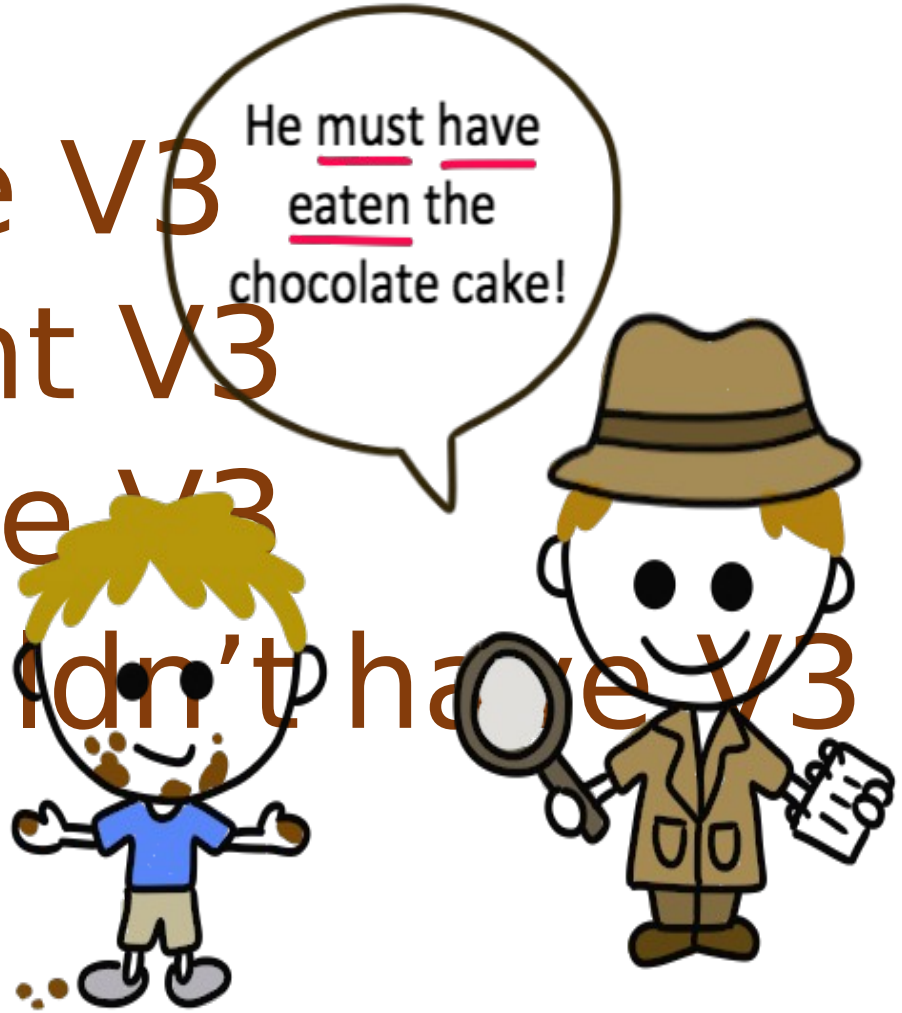
Modals of deductions in the Past

Must have V3

May/ might V3

Could have V3

Can\t /couldn’t have V3



English Study Here

Modals in Past

Modal + have + participle

Modal	Concept	Example
Would have	Past unreal action	If I had guessed the future, I **would have taken** some precautions againist what would happen.
Could have	Past unreal ability	He **could have taken** the flight.
May have	Past unreal possibility	We **may have passed** the math exam, but it was in Spanish.
Might have	Past unreal small probability	You **might have sold** the car., if you really needed the Money.
Should have	Past unreal recommendation	You **should have listened** to the teacher.
Must have	Past unreal assumption	We **must have been** crazy!

Functional Questions: What are modal verbs? What are deductions? Who is Sherlock Holmes? What deductions can you make about this photo?

MODALS OF DEDUCTION

Deductions = guesses based on known facts.
What deductions can you make about this photo?

- ✓ *must be*
  Very sure - 99%
- ✓ *can't be* - Very sure
  We think it's impossible – 99%
- ✓ *may / might / could be*
  We think it's possible - 50%

THE PRESENT

Group work: How many deductions can you make about these photos?